Bonnie Murphy 3679 S. 32nd Street Greenfield. Wisconsin 53221 From: bemurphy41@sbcglobal.net

To: Mike Powell

**Date:** Tue, Apr 1, 2003 2:40 PM

Subject: Preserve Media Diversity: Keep the FCC Rulemaking an Open Process

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell,

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is currently considering sweeping changes to broadcast ownership rules. Repeal or significant modification of these rules would likely open the door to numerous mergers that could reduce competition and diversity in the media.

Before the media ownership rules are issued in final form, the public must have the opportunity to review and comment on any specific changes the Commission plans to make.

If media ownership rules are seriously weakened, one company in a town could control the most popular newspaper, TV station, and possibly even a cable system giving it dominant influence over the content and slant of local news. Such a move would reduce the diversity of cultural and political discussion in a community. It could also raise costs for businesses and candidates that use local media for advertising.

While the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on media ownership, it proposed no actual rule. Accordingly. no public comment has been received on any specific changes. We believe that additional input from the public will help the Commission see the strengths and weaknesses of any new approach.

I encourage you to provide a detailed description of all proposed changes, their empirical basis, and a meaningful period of time for the public to review and comment on any proposed changes before a final rule is issued.

Bonnie Murphy 3679 S. 32nd Street Greenfield, Wisconsin 53221 From: trebares@juno.com
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Patrick Hunt 1233 Lawrence ST. NE Washington, District of Columbia 20017 From: trebares@juno.com
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Ann McQueary 3109 Key Blvd Arlington, Virginia 22201 From: amcqueary@cwa-union org

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Bonnie Bracey 230 G Street SW Washington, District of Columbia 20024 From: bbracey@aol com
To: bbracey@aol com

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Bonnie Bracey 230 G Street SW Washington, District of Columbia 20024 From: mary\_dolan@umit maine edu

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Mary Dolan 175 Veazie Street Old Town, Maine **04468**  From: mary\_dolan@umit.maine.edu

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